

House Agriculture Committee

Agriculture Development



Agenda

- History OF MFB
- Goals
- Strategic investments
- Initiatives
- Environmental Stewardship
- Infrastructure Upgrades – energy



Michigan Farm Bureau

- Founded February 4, 1919
- State Largest General Farm Organization
- Represents all agriculture
- More than 46,500 farmer members



MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU
FAMILY OF COMPANIES

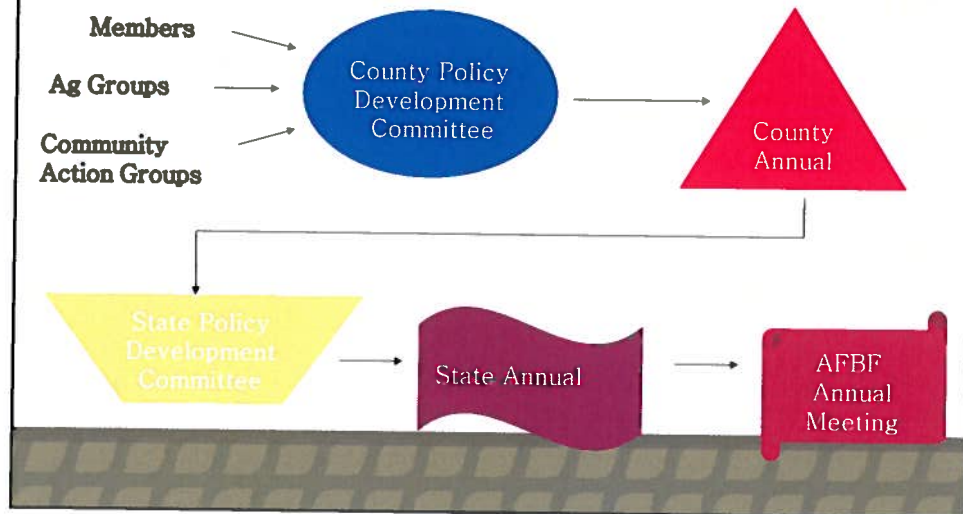
Michigan Farm Bureau



Board of Directors

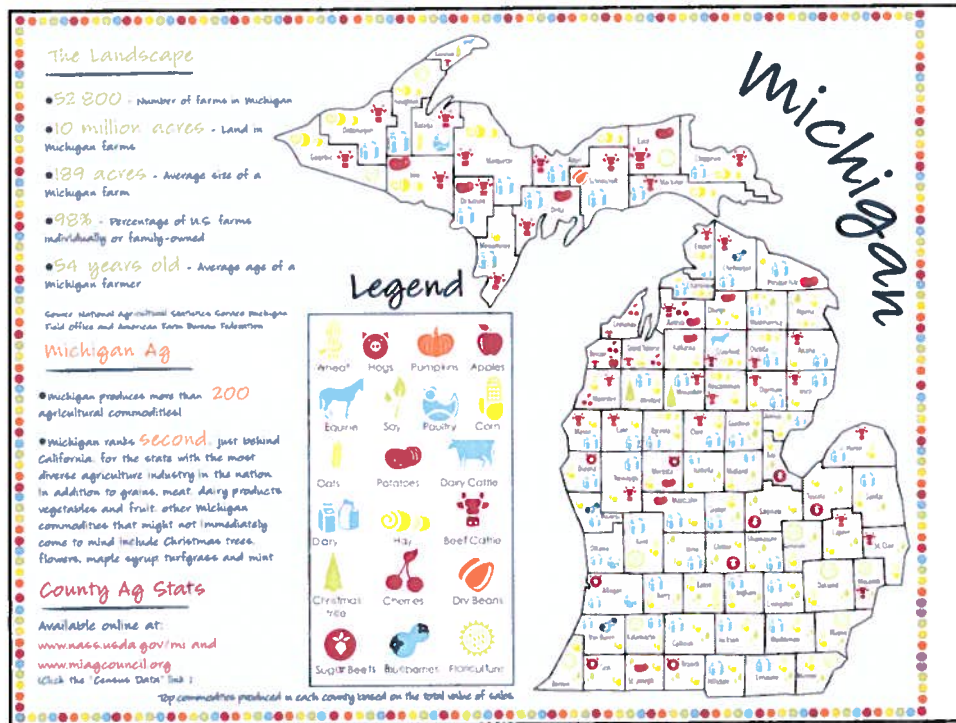
- Represented in 67 county farm bureaus
- MFB governed by 17 member board (all full time farmers)
- Members belong to county, state and national organizations

The policy process



Michigan Agriculture

- The Food and Agriculture Industry:
 - Provides \$100 Billion Economic Contribution
 - Employs 22% of state's workforce
 - Produces over 300 types of commodities



Goal update

In 2011:

- \$100 billion economic impact
- Double Exports
- 10% increase in Ag jobs (goal of 1.1 million)
- 5000 MAEAP verifications
- Increase access to healthy food

Goal update

2011

- \$100 billion economic impact
- Double Exports
- 10% increase in Food and Ag jobs (goal of 1.1 million)
- 5000 MAEAP verifications
- Increase access to healthy food

2015

- \$101 billion economic impact
- Exports at \$3.245 billion – new data in Jan.
- Ag jobs sits at 923,000
- MAEAP verifications – 2507
- Healthy food access

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Strategic Investments



Unfinished From 2014:

- Feed Law Updates
- Food Safety Updates

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Strategic Investments

New Discussion
for 2015:

- Pesticide and Plant Pest Management
- Fertilizer



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Initiatives

- Tree Fruit
 - P.A. 232 check-off on tree fruit industry
 - Expected revenue \$600,000?
 - Infrastructure support at MSU AgBio Research Farms
- Animal Ag
 - Development of industry led flexible funding model patterned after Project GREEN
 - \$4.5 million ask
 - Address industry identified priorities
 - Workforce development, including distance learning through partnerships with community colleges

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Environmental Stewardship

- Farmers are our first environmentalists as stewards of the land and water.
- MAEAP – MI Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program
- Farmer's proactively and voluntarily addressing water quality and resource risks
- Farm Bill RCPP will bring \$40 million to Michigan for conservation efforts



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Energy- Infrastructure Upgrades

- Upgrades and expansion of our current electrical generation system and grid



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Energy- Infrastructure Upgrades

- Development of affordable access to natural gas for rural farms, homes and business as well as the general expansion of natural gas use in Michigan.



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Energy-Infrastructure Upgrades

- Ensuring agriculture has access to all forms of energy that are consistent, reliable, and affordable.



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Thank you

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